

City of Alexandria Pedestrian and Bicycle Citizens Advisory Committee

Meeting Minutes
3 March 2008
Durant Center
(1605 Cameron Street)

Attendees

Jay Lucas, Cheryl St. Amant, Jerry W., Stacy Langsdale, Larry Huffman, Sean Crumley, Dave Levy, Roy Wright, Jerry King, Brian Kane, Amy Slack, Sandra Marks (City Staff/Traffic Calming Coordinator), Rebecca Lichenstein (Toole Design Group), Yon Lambert (City Staff/Ped and Bike Program).

Below is a summary of the City of Alexandria's Pedestrian and Bicycle Citizen's Group meeting conducted on 3 March 2008.

Executive Summary: This meeting covered planning & programming, existing and new project updates, notices, closures and street maintenance and key upcoming events. Further information and continual updates may be found on the City of Alexandria Bicycle and Walking Web Site <http://www.alexandriava.gov/localmotion/>

The meeting began at 7 P.M. and concluded at 9 P.M.

Guest Speaker. Sandra Marks, City of Alexandria Traffic Calming Coordinator, discussed the City's Neighborhood Traffic Calming Program in detail. Ms. Marks provided a background about the program, reviewed new projects and discussed the process for considering and implementing traffic calming projects. There were a number of questions about the program and how pedestrian and bicycle input is considered for projects. Highlights included:

- The City rarely employing speed tables or roadway obstructions in new projects and would only do so on neighborhood roads
- Traffic calming projects are always reviewed and vetted by City Staff, including the Pedestrian and Bicycle Program. New projects consider the needs of bicyclists; curb extensions and bulb outs are considered important pedestrian safety measures and will continue to be employed. However, when constructing these measures consideration is given to bicyclist safety.
- New designs may better facilitate bicycle travel on roadways with traffic calming

Safety & Enforcement. The 2008 Street Smart campaign will kick off on March 7. Alexandria police are joining in the regional efforts and will be promoting pedestrian and bicyclist safety at Metro stations and on key bikeways.

More information here:

<http://www.alexandriava.gov/localmotion/info/default.aspx?id=11276>

Update (April 1, 2008): The Police Department issued a total of 259 citations to drivers during this week of enforcement for a variety of offenses, such as failure to yield to pedestrians in a crosswalk. The APD also issued 59 warnings to pedestrians and bicyclists for offenses such as jaywalking.

Existing Project Updates. The following projects were discussed:

- 1) Stacy Langsdale discussed the city's new Wayfinding program which will include heavy emphasis on pedestrian and bicycle wayfinding. The group held its first meeting on February 27 and a Community Meeting is scheduled for May 29 from 7 to 9 pm at the Masonic Memorial. Meeting minutes and presentations are available on-line at: www.alexandriava.gov/wayfinding
- 2) Guest Speaker Rebecca Lichenstein presented the City's proposed "On-Street Bicycle Parking" specifications and guidelines. These documents are intended to help the City establish standards for establishment of additional on-street bicycle parking spaces, particularly in areas where sidewalk space is limited. There were a number of questions about the presentation including:
 - a. Perpendicular or parallel parking for bicycles within the on-street "stalls"
 - b. The height of the proposed FlexCurb planned for use to delineate the stall
 - c. Proposed locations of on-street bicycle parking and the importance of choosing spots that provide added safety to bicycles
 - d. Comments on the proposal are due March 31

New Project Updates. The following projects were discussed:

- 1) Monticello/Old Dominion: Striping plans are available for the approximately 1.25 miles of bicycle lanes the city plans to add to Old Dominion and Monticello Roads. The bicycle lanes are expected to be implemented in spring 2008.
- 2) Arlington-Alexandria Community Bike Ride: Currently planned for June 7-8.

Notices, closures & street maintenance projects:

- 1) The Wilkes Street Tunnel, which had been closed for a six-month rehabilitation project, is expected to re-open by April 30.
- 2) The Woodrow Wilson Bridge bicycle-pedestrian pathway is expected to open in spring 2009.

- 3) The “Connector Trail” through Jones Point Park will reopen May 30.
- 4) Construction on Four Mile Run between Commonwealth and Rte 1 will conclude by April 1 and a new trail will be installed

Key events and notices:

- The City’s Transportation Master Plan, including pedestrian and bicycle elements, is expected to be approved this spring.
- The Pedestrian and Bicycle Mobility Plan is referenced in the Transportation Master Plan and will be forwarded for public comment to a newly proposed Transportation Commission which is expected to be approved by City Council this summer
- Potomac Yard Landbay K (a linear park and trail that will connect Braddock Road with Four Mile Run) will be going to the Planning Commission this spring. The attendees agreed to schedule a separate meeting to review and provide the City comments prior to public meetings and Planning Commission meetings.

Next Meeting:

- BikeWalk Alexandria meets on April 7, 2007.
- The next Pedestrian and Bicycle Citizens Group meeting will be May 5, 2008.